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WYOMING
June 1, 1944

War food production. - War food assistants in number of counties report planning meetings held with homemakers' clubs on family food supply for 1944. Nation's food needs are presented and Wyoming goals considered. Stress is placed on need for more and larger gardens so full year's food supply may be grown and preserved by every family of county. Many requests are made for demonstrations on food preservation to be held when canning season approaches.

In two district food-preservation drives, Extension, F. S. A., and War Food representatives came together to study methods and subject matter and to standardize methods in working with public. Extension food specialist worked with farm and ranch people in five counties, featuring preparation of wartime meals. Theme of all food and nutrition meetings was food production and preservation, with emphasis on gardens.

Labor. - County labor committees are supporting efforts of State extension labor divisions and county agents in attempts to provide adequate labor supply. In range counties, principal demand has been for lambers and herders. Placements have not met demands, but organized effort has helped to relieve acute situation.

For work with sheep, 196 Navaho Indians, men and women, have been brought in from Southwest and a few distributed to each county. These workers are proving satisfactory--women and older girls and boys as well as men. For work in beets and other crops of irrigated sections, 850 Mexican nationals have been distributed according to needs of counties as indicated by surveys. Number is far short of that asked for. Four camps are being constructed for German war prisoners, and assignment of 85 has been received. Some use is being made of Japanese workers from Hart Mountain relocation center. County agents are doing excellent job, in spite of perplexing problems of handling these classes of workers.

Livestock. - Much work has been done with livestock in meat phase of food-production program. Number of cattle treated against grubs ranged from 3,000 in smaller counties to 14,000 in larger. Fact that control of heel fly means estimated 10 percent increase in pounds a year indicates value of this work.

Demand for demonstrations and assistance in culling sheep continues, since sheep-men are reducing size of flocks. Higher-producing animals and those with better quality of fleeces are saved and poorer ones marked for later elimination. In three counties, large flocks of 3,500 to 5,000 sheep were culled.

Selective Service. - County agents in all counties give great deal of time and effort to collecting information on draftees asking for deferment, aiding employers to fill out agricultural deferment questionnaires, and helping Selective Service boards to keep track of soldiers released for agricultural work. They also see that agricultural workers, released in winter and early spring for railroad or other such work, are turned back to agriculture. All this is done in cooperation with county War Boards.

Potatoes. - Potato surpluses in principal potato-growing counties threatened serious loss to growers and retarded efforts of AAA representatives and county agents who were working to maintain or increase acreages for 1944. Agents in these counties helped growers assemble and ship surplus No. 2's in bulk to western Nebraska for use in manufacturing alcohol.

Information. - Special bulletins have been released on Wartime Feeding and Forage production, Victory Garden Hints, Timetable for Canning, Every Motion Counts, The Family in Wartime, and News-Writing Aids.

